pole can most easily respond; sometimes a special note, started by the wire at the upper end of the pole, is reinforced by resonance, and that which is only feeble on the wire becomes most prominent on the pole. Of course, the stronger the wind and the more gusty it is, so much the more active will be the humming of the wire and the pole. If the wind blows lengthwise of the wire it will bring out a different combination of notes from those produced by a transverse wind. Therefore, the direction of the wind has some influence upon the humming of the telegraph poles, but the direction of the wind depends upon the location of the storm center, and is a good basis for local prediction as to rain. Hence, those who have studied the humming very closely have frequently declared that they can tell the weather by the character of the humming.

According to a clipping from the Saturday Budget, Quebec, Ont., March 12, 1904, a prominent meteorologist in Toronto has made a series of observations and arrives at the following conclusions:

* * * the humming of wires running east and west invariably presaged a fall of temperature, often ten or more hours in advance of the thermometer; the humming of wires running north and south advised a rise in temperature, almost always several hours in advance of the thermometer. Wires running east and west never hummed together with wires running north and south, not even when the same wires running along an east and west street turned down a north and south side; only that portion of them hummed that indicated a rise or fall in temperature, as explained above. If one part hummed the other part was silent.

It seems evident to us that the humming is due entirely to the action of the wind. We see no necessity for assuming that electric currents, either in the air or in the wire, or any other mystery need to be considered. Those who invoke electricity must give some plausible reason why the current should oscillate with such frequency as to cause the rapid vibrations that must exist in order to cause audible sound.

NOTE ON THE GREAT METEOR OF SEPTEMBER 15, 1902.

Since printing the article by Mr. Mosely on page 172 of the April REVIEW, he has received the following record from Thomas Mikesell, voluntary observer at Wauseon, Ohio, 33 miles west of Toledo (in latitude 41° 35′ north, longitude 84° 7′ west), who says:

Several persons about Wauseon saw the meteor, though I did not see it myself. My record states that at 5:45 a. m., central standard time, I looked out of the window and saw a curious streak, like a thin, white cloud, extending from near the east, northward about 40°. It was about three-fourths of a degree wide, of serpentine form, with a few short kinks. It continued visible for fifteen or twenty minutes and hardly moved from where I first saw it, though it changed to an ashy color. I noted the time at once on seeing it. I estimated the altitude at about 25°, perhaps a little lower at the north end.

Mr. Mosely adds:

This would seem to show that the trail remained visible at Wauseon for nearly an hour and a half after the passage of the meteor. The estimate of altitude is in substantial accord with the conclusions I had already reached.

WEATHER BUREAU MEN AS INSTRUCTORS.

Mr. Edward L. Wells, Observer, Boise, Idaho, reports that on June 10 some 30 teachers of the Ada County Teachers' Institute visited the local office of the Weather Bureau, and listened to an informal talk on the use of the instruments and the work of the Bureau. The teachers evinced more than a passing interest in these matters, and some of them desired to study the instruments more in detail in order that they might be better able to instruct their pupils.

On May 14 he addressed the class in physical geography from the Boise High School on observations and map making and the collection of meteorological data.

On June 9, Mr. Wm. G. Burns, Section Director, Springfield, Ill., addressed an advanced class from the Convers Public School on the general scope of Weather Bureau work.

Mr. J. R. Weeks, Observer, Macon, Ga., on June 3 delivered an illustrated lecture before 200 students of the Georgia-Alabama Business College on the Subject, "Weather and Business."

Mr. James H. Scarr, Observer, Sacramento, Cal., and Mr. E. Bonnett, Assistant Observer, on May 13 lectured to the class in physics from the city high school, which came to the office in two sections. The instruction consisted of an explanation of the instruments and weather maps, with some remarks on the scope and limitations of weather forecasting. Members of the class have since frequently visited the office for fuller instruction on special points.

THE WEATHER OF THE MONTH.

By Mr. W. B. STOCKMAN, District Forecaster, in charge of Division of Meteorological Records.

PRESSURE.

The distribution of mean atmospheric pressure is graphically shown on Chart VIII and the average values and departures from normal are shown in Tables I and VI.

The mean pressure for May, 1904, was highest, with readings of about 30.10 inches, on the north Pacific coast, with a secondary area of somewhat lower pressure over the middle Atlantic and New England coasts. It was lowest over the southern Platean region, with minimum readings of 29.75 inches in southern Arizona.

The mean pressure was above the normal in New England, the eastern portion of the Middle Atlantic States, eastern Texas, Missouri Valley, middle and northern slope, northern Plateau, and north Pacific regions, and slightly below normal in the remaining districts. The greatest plus departures were .10 inch in the northwestern portion of the north Pacific region, and the maximum minus departures occurred on the southern coast of and in the interior of California and ranged from —.05 to —.09 inch.

The mean pressure for the month increased over that of April, 1904, in the north Pacific region, New England, and the eastern portion of the Middle Atlantic States, and diminished in the remaining districts.

The increase in New England and the eastern portion of the Middle Atlantic States was slight, while in the north Pacific region it ranged from +.05 to +.11 inch. Over the greater portion of the area where there was a decrease the changes were quite marked, ranging from —.15 to —.20 inch, in the north-central section of the United States.

TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR.

The distribution of maximum, minimum, and average surface temperatures is graphically shown by the lines on Chart V.

The mean temperature of the month was below normal in the Southern States, except the eastern portions of Virginia, North Carolina and Kentucky, and central Florida, in Kansas, eastern and northern Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, eastern Montana, western North Dakota, northeastern Oregon, Washington, and on the south-central coast of California; and above normal in the remaining districts.

In northern and central California, south-central Arizona, the eastern parts of the Dakotas, northern lower Michigan, southeastern Wisconsin, New England, New York, eastern Pennsylvania, and northern and central New Jersey the changes were from +2.0° to somewhat more than +4.0°. The minus departures were not so large.